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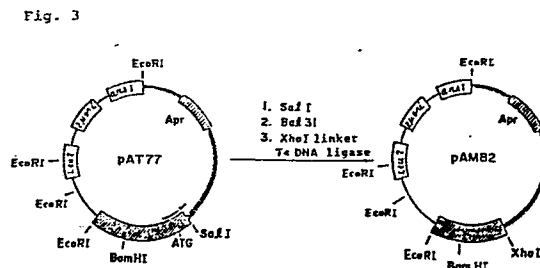
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(54) **Recombinant plasmid containing hepatitis B virus gene, yeast transformed with said recombinant plasmid, and production of hepatitis B virus surface antigen.**

(57) Described are recombinant plasmids containing a Hepatitis B virus gene, which comprises a plasmid vector containing a yeast derived DNA and a *E. coli* derived DNA and carrying the expression control region of the repressible acid phosphatase gene of yeast and a Hepatitis B virus gene recombined thereto under control of the phosphatase promoter, a transformed yeast which is prepared by transforming a yeast with the recombinant plasmid, and a method of the production of Hepatitis B virus surface antigen in a large scale by cultivating the transformed yeast in a medium. The Hepatitis B virus surface antigen prepared by the present invention has the same immunological properties as those of the natural antigen from human blood plasma and is useful for the preparation of Hepatitis B virus vaccine and diagnostic reagents.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 9)
E	EP-A-0 100 561 (CIBA-GEIGY AG) * Examples 20,21; claims 52,53 *	1,2,5- 11,15	C 12 N 15/00 C 12 P 21/02 C 12 N 1/18 // C 12 R 1/865
E	* Example 24 *	3,4,13 ,14	
A,D	--- NATURE, vol. 298, no. 5872, 22nd July 1982, pages 347-350, Chesham, Bucks, GB; P. VALENZUELA et al.: "Synthesis and assembly of hepatitis B virus surface antigen particles in yeast" * Whole document *	1,5-11	
X,P	--- PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES USA, vol. 80, no. 1, January 1983, pages 1-5, Washington, US; A. MIYANOHARA et al.: "Expression of hepatitis B surface antigen gene in yeast" * Whole document *	1-22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 9) C 12 N C 12 P A 61 K
A,P	--- EP-A-0 073 657 (GENENTECH, INC.)		
A,P	--- EP-A-0 072 318 (THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITIES OF CALIFORNIA AND WASHINGTON) -----		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 01-08-1985	Examiner CUPIDO M.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			